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TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION

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## *Memorandum*

TO: Air Quality Conformity Task Force

DATE: May 30, 2008

FR: Ashley Nguyen

W. I.

RE: Transportation 2035 Update

Launched in early 2007, MTC is undertaking a major update to its regional transportation plan, known as Transportation 2035: Change in Motion. Unlike previous plans, which focused first on finances, this effort begins by defining a vision for what the region's transportation network should encompass by the year 2035, and then identifying the policies and financial strategies to carry out that vision.

A number of key Transportation 2035 milestones have been completed to date as follows:

- Provisionally adopted the Three Es of sustainability – economy, environment, and equity – as the umbrella framework for the Transportation 2035 vision. The eight plan goals – safety and maintenance, reliability, clean air, livable communities, access to mobility, efficient freight travel, climate protection (new), and security and emergency management (new) – are arrayed across the Three Es. *(July 2007)*
- Conducted a vision scenario analysis that evaluated the effects of infrastructure investments, coupled with aggressive pricing and land use strategies, against ambitious performance targets (which were later adopted by the Commission). *(October 2007)*
- Hosted the Bay Area on the Move Summit to launch the Transportation 2035 planning effort, this was a joint venture with our partner agency ABAG. *(October 2007)*
- Held a round of public outreach meetings entitled “The Dialogue Continues”, focus groups, field interviews and telephone poll to solicit public input on transportation priorities for T2035. *(November 2007)*
- Produced financial forecasts of revenues projected to be available to the region over the next 25 years. *(December 2007)*
- Provisionally adopted ambitious performance targets that serve as numerical benchmarks to measure the region's progress towards implementing the vision. Targets include reducing delay, VMT, particulate matter and carbon dioxide emissions, transportation/housing costs for working families, improving maintenance of local roads, transit, State highways, and reducing injuries and fatalities related to motor vehicle collisions.. *(January 2008)*
- Provisionally approved a vision statement plus a set of policy briefs that articulate the vision for getting from where we are today to where we want to be in 2035 in the areas of infrastructure investments, pricing, focused growth, technology, and individual actions. *(March 2008)*

- Conducted a project-level performance evaluation to assess benefit/cost, cost-effectiveness, and goal attainment. *(May 2008)*
- Held a second round of public outreach meetings, focus groups hosted by community-based organizations, and telephone poll to solicit public input on investment priorities and tradeoffs. *(May 2008)*

We are now at a point in our journey where we have to make some tough tradeoffs about where we invest our transportation dollars. Of the \$220 billion in revenue projected to be available to the region over the next 25 years, \$190 billion is committed by voter mandate, statute or Commission policy towards maintaining and expanding our existing transportation system. This leaves \$30 billion in uncommitted discretionary revenues. Transportation priorities vying for this \$30 billion include: transit, local road, and State highway maintenance shortfalls; system operations strategies like the Freeway Performance Initiative; programs aimed at focused growth, climate protection, and Lifeline service; and numerous capacity expansions throughout the region.

MTC staff developed a set of investment options for initial discussion with the Commission at its May 27 workshop. After a lively discussion of the issues and tradeoffs, the Commission developed three draft alternative investment packages that focused on different investment levels for maintenance, system efficiency, and expansion. These packages will be subject to further partner, public and Commission discussion in June, and the process will culminate in a preferred investment plan for Commission review and approval in July.

### **Next Steps**

- Identify draft investment packages for public, partner, and Commission review (June)
- Seek Commission approval of draft financially constrained investment plan (July)
- Conduct technical EIR and conformity analysis and prepare reports (August – November)
- Release Draft T2035 and EIR for public review (December)
- Release Draft Conformity Analysis (January 2009)